



# VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE



## *Proclamation*

### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Whereas, Epilepsy, also known as Seizure Disorder, has afflicted mankind since the dawn of our species and has been recognized since the earliest medical writings; and

Whereas, as long ago as 400 B.C., Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, repudiated ancient beliefs that Epilepsy was a visitation from the gods and sacred or that it was a curse from the gods that people afflicted with this disorder held prophetic powers. Hippocrates believed that Epilepsy was a brain disorder; and

Whereas, a seizure is a sudden, brief attack of altered consciousness, motor activity or sensory phenomena. It is a sign that certain brain cells (neurons) are discharging an excessive amount of electrical impulses; and

Whereas, Epilepsy can be caused by injury to the brain, lack of oxygen at birth, brain tumor, infection and brain hemorrhage. In sixty percent of the cases, the cause is unknown; and

Whereas, Epilepsy can affect anyone, at any age and at any time; and

Whereas, more than two million Americans are afflicted with some type of Epilepsy. Of this number, 150,000 are Florida residents; and

Whereas, with the administration of anticonvulsant drugs, two-thirds (66.66%) of those afflicted with Epilepsy are drug controlled; and

Whereas, lack of education about this disorder has contributed to age old myths, superstitions and prejudices; and

Whereas, the stigma associated with this disorder is sometimes worse than the disorder itself; and

Whereas, people who have Epilepsy make reliable and conscientious worker in job performance, productivity, safety, cooperation and attendance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT OLDAKOWSKI, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2003 AS,

### NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE THIS 14th DAY OF October, 2003.

MAYOR ROBERT OLDAKOWSKI



COMMITTEE FOR EPILEPSY AWARENESS  
6670 ROYAL PALM BLVD  
BLDG. K APT. 302  
MARGATE, FLORIDA 33063-2189

Jerry Pizza, Chairman  
(954) 984-8319

Bill Naulty, Secretary  
(561) 798-2798

Dear *Village Clerk,* October, 2003

The month of November is "NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH". The Committee for Epilepsy Awareness would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping bring about an awareness of this disorder.

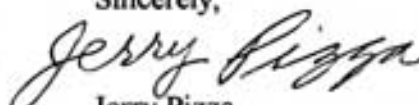
Due to lack of correct information and an abundance of misinformation, people afflicted with Epilepsy have been discriminated against in all walks of life.

It is our goal to remove the ancient myths, superstitions and prejudices associated with this disorder and educate people as to what Epilepsy is and what Epilepsy is not.

Enclosed, please find a copy of our resolution. If your municipality participates in our awareness campaign, please send a copy of the resolution or proclamation to:

Jerry Pizza – Chairman  
Committee for Epilepsy Awareness  
6670 Royal Palm Blvd.  
Bldg. K. Apt. 302  
Margate, Florida 33063-2189

Thank you in advance for your interest in and concern for people afflicted with Epilepsy.

Sincerely,  
  
Jerry Pizza  
Chairman

P.S. Thanks to your support, last year 343 communities participated in our awareness campaign.